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Southern District of West Virginia**

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**LOGAN COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL OXYCODONE CHARGES**

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Dennis J. Cooper also known as “P.J.,” 36, of Verdunville, Logan County, West Virginia pleaded guilty today before United States District Judge John T. Copenhaver Jr., to conspiracy to distribute oxycodone. From May 2009, until on or about March 29, 2010, Cooper admitted his involvement in a drug trafficking organization that distributed oxycodone in and around the Logan County area. Cooper admitted to conspiring with several associates to distribute and sell oxycodone for profit at known residences located in Mud Fork and Verdunville, Logan County. Cooper further admitted to selling approximately five 80-milligram oxycodone pills to an informant working for the U.S. 119 Task Force in exchange for \$500 cash on October 6, 2009. The defendant also admitted to selling approximately two 80-milligram oxycodone pills to an informant in exchange for \$200 cash the following week, on October 15, 2009. On March 29, 2010, Cooper, aided and abetted by a known associate, distributed approximately one-half of an 80-milligram oxycodone pill to an informant in exchange for \$50 cash. The oxycodone pills sold by the defendant were submitted to the West Virginia State Police Forensic Laboratory and proved to contain oxycodone.

Cooper faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine when he is sentenced on June 30, 2011.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. 119 Task Force. Assistant United States Attorney William King is in charge of the prosecution.

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